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ROCKETS AND STRATEGY

By

V. Larinov

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ROCKETS AND STRATEGY

Lt. Col. V. Larionov, Candidate in Military Sciences

The global rocket, an invulnerable weapon.
One more illustration of the USA lag in rocket
construction. Serious warning to aggressors.

Appearing at a meeting with voters on March 16, Comrade N. S. Khrushchev showed the complete insolvency of the policy of aggressive circles in the USA which are trying to unleash a new war and at the same time planning on evading retribution and sitting it out on the other side of the ocean. To ward off a counterstrike from the Soviet Union the American military has created a system of radar and other installations with the aim of intercepting rockets in flight approximately via the North Pole, that is, by the shortest route.

The hopes of military circles in the USA for defense from a rocket counterstrike are now ungrounded as never before. Our scholars and engineers have created a new intercontinental rocket which they have called a global rocket; this weapon is invulnerable to anti-missile defense.

The new global rockets can fly around the globe in any direction

and deal a blow to any given target. The example of the flights of the spaceships Vostok I and Vostok II indicate the exactness of the calculations.

So the huge sums invested by the United States of America in the creation of a system of locators and other warning devices have been of no use. All that has now lost its significance, because rockets can fly to territory of the USA in a completely different direction from that in which these installations are disposed. As one of the English newspapers writes, owing to the global rocket the USSR "can bomb the USA from the 'back entry,' firing their rockets over the Pacific Ocean or even over the South Pole and South America."

Our scientists' and engineers' creation of the global rocket is a clear illustration of the inexhaustible strength and power of the Soviet state, a new affirmation of the serious USA lag behind the Soviet Union in the development of modern powerful missile engineering. Characteristic in this regard is the report of the foreign press that western military experts considered the creation of global rockets impossible before the end of the sixties. And that while the American military is bending over backwards to put the very newest scientific advances at the service of the armaments race. Everyone knows it is no secret that all efforts to master space in the US pursue chiefly military aims.

Neither American politicians in office nor military figures hide that. Thus the President of the United States, John Kennedy, said even in 1960 when he was a senator, "The mastery of space is the task of this decade. The state that controls space will also be able to control the earth."

The commander of the Ballistic Missile Division of the Air Force

Major-General Ritland, expressed this idea more frankly, "We are rushing into space not because it beckons us like everything unknown, but because it is a base where strategic activities of great effectiveness may be carried out."

It is perfectly obvious that the theoretical and practical mastery of space for military goals is thought of first of all in the interests of strategy, since the creation and use of various space systems and craft may right away result in a major military outcome.

The elaboration of effective means of inflicting blows from space and of fighting with space methods of attack coupled with nuclear arms armament puts in the hands of the strategic command a new, powerful means of influencing the military-economic potential and military power of the enemy.

In the opinion of western theoreticians war using space means and thermonuclear weapons acquires the character of a war "knowing no bounds either in space or time, or in power of action, that is, transforming itself into a materialized global system of destruction."

This global system of destruction in American strategy is expressed in the acknowledgment of air and outer space as the decisive theaters of operation in a future war. The material strength of this strategy is considered nuclear air-space power, which is evaluated as the main factor in victory.

The basis of air-space might must be composed of aerodynamic aircraft, including piloted airplanes of a large radius of action, ballistic rockets, and different kinds of space equipment, both existing and projected.

On the basis of these views the military program of the USA is

also being constructed. It should, however, be emphasized that influence on the drawing-up of the USA's military plan is exerted not only by the recognition of the decisive role of space means in a future war but also by the level of scientific and technical advances in this field.

Not expecting to overtake the USSR in the next few years in conquering outer space the American policy leaders and strategists from the Pentagon consider that this can be achieved by drawing up and executing long term programs. There are also other reasons that the Americans openly proclaim their prospective programs of enlarging their arsenal of space weapons. In this way the United States wants to create the semblance of space might and of their own great scientific-technical resources and raise their shaky authority among their partners in the aggressive blocks.

Outwardly the American program of military space research, calculated through 1975, actually seems rather impressive. It is intended to realize it in three stages. For the first stage during 1962-1965 is contemplated the creation of military space systems ensuring successful armed force activity in all spheres, land, sea, and air. This phase is concerned with the means of carrying on of intelligence activities in regard to the strategic means of the adversary disposed on land and above and under water which secure the radionavigation of rocket-carrying submarines and airplanes carrying nuclear arms.

For the reconnoitering of land targets it is proposed in 1962 to send into orbit 20 experimental models of the Samos system and subsequently 8 satellites a year. With them are to be photographed ground objects, even those of small size, in the territory of the

socialist countries.

Using communications satellites as a base, creation of a unified global system of communications is proposed which would ensure the guidance of the armed forces of the USA, stored in its own territory and abroad, and also of the armed forces of the countries of all the aggressive imperialistic blocs.

For 1965 is planned the mastery of anti-ballistic-missile combat in the effective sector of their trajectories; and identification of and counter measures against satellites. But a certain pessimism is already right now manifesting itself in this regard, especially after the report of the creation of the global rocket in the USSR. "Defense experts in the Western countries," writes the "Daily Herald," "find themselves facing an almost unsolvable problem".

The broadly conceived American plans of military exploitation of outer space envisage after 1965 the creation of new armament systems for carrying on independent offensive and defensive operations in space, and space systems for dealing nuclear blows on surface targets. In this stage is envisaged the perfecting of existing and the assimilation of new ballistic rocket models to shoot into terrestrial orbit satellite ships openly acknowledged as carriers of thermonuclear loads. On board such a ship it is proposed to put a crew of two or three men, and optical, television, and photographic equipment. It is not considered possible to create the experimental models of spacecraft for striking surface targets with nuclear loads using space-earth projectiles before 1966.

In the more distant future (after 1970) the mastery of other planets and the founding of a military base on the moon is planned. Although these projects are very distant and problematical, American

theorists are even now hastening to prophesy the military significance of the moon and the possibilities which open in connection with its mastery.

For example, the assistant editor of the journal "Air Force" writes, "...mastering the moon, in addition to its purely scientific significance, will play an important role in a military respect. Powerful telescopes placed on the moon may be used for reconnoitering purposes and in case of war the moon will be a base from which nuclear arms will be used."

These plans of the American imperialists are directed toward exploiting space for military aims. But even the American specialists themselves are sceptical of realizing them. Thus the leader of the organization for space research in one of his statements admitted that "some of our plans for launching space missiles are not realistic enough. Above all it has turned out that we have not even attained in the technology of space research that which we previously supposed. The ratio of successful launchings to failures has not changed... We have come up against a number of serious difficulties in the area of power plants and guidance systems. Above all the problem of reliability bothers us. In the near future we cannot even count on three successful launches out of four tries".

Seeking universal and complete disarmament, the Soviet Union is decisively opposing military use of outer space. A higher level of scientific and technical progress than in the USA enables the Soviet Union confidently to maintain its superiority in conquering space for scientific goals.

In these days the whole world is broadly discussing the report of the construction of the first global rocket in the world. The

creation of the global rocket in the USSR will, indubitably, as is
acknowledged by foreign military specialists, exert a serious influence on modern military strategy. It will force military adventurers to hesitate.

...The monopolists like to think in old concepts: they say, the Soviet Union, that is still the same bast-sandal-wearing Russia, we did not recognize her for 16 years after the October Revolution.

But we have long ago put our bast sandals in the museum. Our space ships were the first to penetrate outer space. This is no longer the Russia of bast sandals, but the Russia of the twentieth century! This is a socialist power with the foremost science and technology! (From the speech by N. S. Khrushchev at a meeting of the voters of the Kalinin electoral district of the city of Moscow.)



These bast sandals are global and intercontinental ones!

Drawing by A. Orlov and V. Konstantinov.

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